

Meeting Minutes
PIRATE HARBOR WATERWAY UNIT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
May 15, 2014 – Regular Meeting
10:00 A.M. - Public Works Conference Room

Attendees: Charles Gertner, Kenneth Ice, Dennis McCulloch, Catherine Taylor and LeRoi Yaffey

County: Mike Dallenbach, Dawn Harrison and Sandy Wright

Guests: Sign-in sheet attached

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. A roll call was taken. A quorum was present.

The meeting notes from February 12, 2014 were unanimously approved as written.

Citizen Input:

- None

Old Business:

- Dredging – Mr. Mopps reported that the dredge project was approved at the last BCC meeting. The schedule is to begin in June due to the sea grass growing season. The survey will begin then and data reduction and design will begin in July. The permit application will be submitted in August. The process is anticipated to take from September 2014 until late 2015 or early 2016. The biggest hold up may be with Marine Fisheries due to the small tooth sawfish. There could potentially be sea grass impacts. The project review will take longer due to it being a new dredge. There was discussion regarding mitigation and areas where a poling troll may be required. Another option would be a sandbag prop zone. The Committee could pay into the restoration of an area where prop scarring is present. The area would be marked with Habitat Restoration Zone signage. Poling and Nicm zones are desirable. Mr. Mopps asked that the members get an area map and mark where the areas are located that they would like to deem a NICM and/or sandbag area. Both could be done, it's a matter of cost. Nicm areas would have to be put into an ordinance so they can be enforced. Grasses should reestablish the area. There was discussion regarding possible areas. The members showed Mr. Mopps on an aerial map what area should be deemed Habitat Restoration Zone. Mr. Mopps stated that the zones will become part of the permit application and suggested the committee discuss this with the area fisherman. As soon as the information is forwarded to Mr. Mopps; it will be passed on. The project status is available on the Charlotte County website. Mr. Mopps would like the Committee to review the design before moving forward with the project. If the permit is received by late 2015 it could possibly be put out to bid with work beginning in early 2016. A spoil site will have to be identified; however that has never been an issue in the past. The project will be 90 day contract so if all goes well; the project should be complete by spring 2016.
- There was discussion regarding Florida not requiring a boater's license or safe boating certification. Boaters are not necessarily aware of the rules.

New Business:

- Financials – The 6 Month Actual Report was distributed for review and questions. Ms. Harrison will email an Activity Report to explain items in more details.
- Rate Reduction – Ms. Harrison suggested the members consider reducing the current rate from \$385 to \$175. She spoke with Mr. Mopps regarding future plans; there is nothing in the works which makes it hard to justify the current rate. If approved the reduction would be effective FY 2015/2016. The committee agreed that the decrease would be better used in the Street & Drainage Unit. An increase for the S&D unit may be better received with a decrease in the Waterway Unit. Mr. Ice made a motion to approve the reduction of the assessment to \$175 from \$385; the motion was seconded by Ms. Taylor and passed unanimously. The rate reduction will be in effect for two years after it is decreased.

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- The members discussed negative feedback and stated that they have not heard of any community protests regarding the outside dredge.

Open Discussion:

- There was discussion regarding the Committee using the available map to identify the habitat restoration areas now while they are in this meeting. There was extensive discussion regarding the areas. The Committee agreed to table this item and set a special meeting to discuss this subject after they have had a chance to review the areas and talk to neighbors.
- What steps would need to be taken to change the minimum wake zones to no wake zones to try to slow the boaters down. Ms. Harrison will follow up with Mr. Mopps.
- A special meeting to discuss habitat restoration zones is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21, 2014 at 10:00a.m. at Public Works.
- The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 25, 2014 at 10:00a.m. at Public Works.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Submitted by:



Sandy Wright
Public Works Department

